

Scott Stibitz at the Center for Biological Research and Evaluation, United States Food and Drug Administration (Stibitz, S. and M-S. Yang. 1991. J. Bact. 173:4288-4296). The transformed *B. pertussis* knockout mutant derived therefrom was designated strain BP536pWY and has been deposited with the American Type Culture Collection, (Manassas, VA) in accordance with the terms of the Budapest Treaty. The American Type Culture Collection has assigned *B. pertussis* strain BP536pWY ATCC number PTA-3254. All methods employed are all well known to those of ordinary skill in the art. See for example: Methods in Molecular Biology, vol XX, B.D. Shepard and M.S. Gilmore (eds) (1995); DNA Sequencing, L. Alphey. Bios Scientific Publishers (1997); Diagnostic and Molecular Microbiology: Principles and Applications, D.H. Persing, T.F. Smith, F.C. Tenover and T.J. White (eds) (1993) American Society for Microbiology; Molecular Biology, D. Freifelder (ed) (1987) Jones and Bartlett Publishers; and Molecular Biology of the Gene, J.D. Watson, N.H. Hopkins, J.W. Roberts, J.A. Steiz and A.M. Weiner (eds) (1987) The Bengerman/Cummings Publishing Company, Inc. --

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please add the following new claims.

--9. The *B. pertussis* cysteine desulfinase knockout mutant of claim 1 which is identified by ATCC Accession number PTA-3254.

A2 10. The method according to claim 2 wherein the *B. pertussis* cysteine desulfinase is identified by knockout mutant ATCC Accession number PTA-3254. --

REMARKS

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the application by this Preliminary Amendment.